

Questions and Answers for BAA 05-40 Switchblade OFW

To submit a formal question regarding this solicitation,
please send it by email to BAA05-40@darpa.mil.

1) Question: PIP Section 2.6 identifies seven (7) milestones. The last sentence prior to Milestone 1 states, "The offeror may also tailor their milestone schedule to support their unique program plan." Does this mean that the contractor can structure their IMP/IMS to less or more milestones if it better fits their "unique program plan"....or is it DARPA's intention that the contractor utilizes the seven (7) milestones specifically as stated in the PIP?

RESPONSE: DARPA developed these milestones as a means of reflecting the desired deliverables and sequencing of Phase I activities. However as stated in the PIP, the Offeror is free to propose their own milestone schedule provided it delivers the same information and the Offeror provides rationale as to why their milestone schedule is preferred. The Offeror is also free to change the number of milestones but should adequately spread them over their period of performance to provide the government with opportunities to review progress at reasonable intervals.

2) Question: Section 3.5.1-Cost Tables states, "The lead page of the Cost section shall have a Cost Summary Sheet, including all the information shown in Table 1, as applicable. It shall be a one-page summary of program costs in tabular format..... The second page of the cost response should include a summary table that includes the base program and prioritized options (if proposed) with associated costs for each....." Does the customer want the one-page lead page to include the **option** costs in the 'summary of program costs'?

RESPONSE: The table on the first page should include only the base program. The second page should include the base program with costed options listed in priority order.

3) Question: Table 1-Cost Summary Sheet has asterisks by those categories that are to be fully burdened. Does the customer want all 'Other Direct Costs (ODC) elements (Travel, Purchased Services, Other...) fully burdened?

RESPONSE: Yes. The totals for each element of the table should sum to the total proposed cost.

4) Question: General Instruction (presented after Table 1): Last sentence states, "The costs shown in the various breakouts and discussed in the following sections should equal those summarized in Table 1." Should tables 2,3,5,6,7 & 8 include the options, or does there need to be a separate set of tables for the options?

RESPONSE: If the options are priced as separate elements of the work outline structure and are also clearly identified within each table, then a single table is acceptable. However for ease of evaluation separate tables are preferred.

5) Question: The PIP in section 4.1 states that the award criteria are of equal weight between six different items. One of those items is the cost/schedule section of the proposal.

Will the ROM costs for Phase II be a factor in the award of the Phase I contract?

RESPONSE: Yes. The Government needs to understand the full scope of activities required to achieve flight demonstration of the contractor's X-Plane concept. The cost and schedule of the Offeror's total program will be a factor in deciding whether it is in the best interest of the Government to proceed with Phase I. The cost reasonableness of both the Phase I proposal and the Phase II ROM will be used in the evaluation for the Phase I award.